News to Use!

The John R. and Margrite Davis Foundation, based in Detroit, Michigan, has given a generous donation to the New Union Project. John Davis came from a humble background in Oil City Pennsylvania. Once he gained success through the Ford Motor Company, he began sharing his wealth with the catholic community. He donated land for churches and schools, and soon began to reach out to other organizations in need of financial aid.

Deb Cunningham, a member of the Ohio Union staff, sits on the Board of the Davis Foundation. She brought the Ohio Union Project to the Foundation’s attention and was able secure a generous donation to the Ohio Union Project which will be used for the Interfaith Center. The Ohio State University and the Ohio Union sincerely thank the John R. and Margrite Davis Foundation for their help in making our new union one of the best in the country!

Planning Team continues to gather information.

Planning Team Members traveled to Ohio University on September 30, 2005 to visit the OU Bobcat’s new student union which was designed by Moody Nolan. The planning team continues to go on these trips to better understand what students are using in unions at other universities. They are able to gather information and new ideas as well as see things that they might choose to do differently to meet the needs of Ohio State students.
Trading Spaces

Bringing you one step closer to your new Ohio Union!

Keeping the Union Spirit Alive

A Student’s Perspective ... by David Morgan

ow that the Union is in the schematic design phase, the building is beginning to take shape; adjacencies and important details are now being factored into the designs. As a student who spends vast amounts of time in the Union, I find it thrilling that I am able to participate in such an important project. The decisions that are being made in the planning committee will affect the students who call the Union home for years to come.

Although I will more than likely not be a student at Ohio State (baring a disaster, AKA Law School) when the Union opens, I look forward to roaming the halls of the future building. Two aspects of the building that I am most excited about are the Great Hall and the 24-hour Diner. Both, I feel, will add a sense of uniqueness to the building. The Great Hall will be a phenomenal atrium space that students will find inviting and awe-inspiring; while the Diner is a section of the building that has immense potential. Having a 24-hour Diner on campus will certainly be embraced by students. It will also become a spot on campus for alumni to come back to relive their glory days.

As a member of the planning committee I have gained several real-life experiences. Conducting numerous interviews, working with a large budget, and thinking on a broad scope are just some of the experiences I have had as a member. Speaking on behalf of the students, I feel very lucky to be able to participate in such a significant project. Our participation goes beyond sitting in countless meetings and listening to various design schemes. The members of the core planning committee are dedicated to listening to the students concerns and do everything within their power to find answers to our questions and fix any potential concerns we have.

(David Morgan, 3rd Year Undergrad, Chair, Ohio Union Council and Planning Team member)

The "Happy Hammer Award" was developed to be a symbol of the teamwork and appreciation for those involved in the project that go above and beyond their duties on the committee. This award is selected by a secret committee and given out at each planning committee meeting. Each recipient receives a certificate and a special Bob the Builder cut-out for them to keep until the next planning meeting.
Moving ‘Round the Bases and Heading Back to Home has been announced as The Transition Theme. The Ohio Union Transition Team will be using the theme to help communicate news, updates and special projects associated with the New Ohio Union Project. It is the Transition Team’s goal to provide the most up-to-date information regarding the project so students, faculty, staff and the campus community are aware of what is going on during the transition and with the project at all times.

Playing off of a baseball premise, the theme will help demonstrate the different stages of the project and highlight new information. A poster series will include several different “baseball positions” such as the pitch, a batter and each base. Each position will correspond to a different stage of the project. Lantern ads and promotional items will also help support the theme.

Look for the Transition posters in residence halls, academic buildings, student affairs offices and other locations on campus in the next few weeks and help us begin our trip ‘Round the Bases. We can’t wait until we head “Back to Home” and are able to celebrate the Grand Opening of the New Ohio Union!
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Construction Corner
Laying out the space.

M embers of the Planning Committee have been meeting with Ohio Union staff members, students and other student affairs offices to begin laying out the Ohio Union Administrative offices as well as the Student Organization space within the New Ohio Union. Office space, storage needs and accessibility are being taken into consideration a great deal when picturing how these spaces should be organized in the new building.

The new administrative arrangement will be more inviting and conducive to customer interaction as well as collaboration amongst staff while the Student Organization space will be fun, comfortable and include a community gathering space bringing students together. Although not finalized, these spaces are really beginning to take shape.

R umor Mill
What have you heard?

R umor: “I heard that the Ohio Union won’t be offering any services while the new building is being built.”

Fact: Current services will be relocated to the Fawcett Center once construction of the new union begins, which is projected for 2007. It is our goal to provide the same level of service to all students, guests and clients.

CRUNCHING NUMBERS!

Over 4,400 people were served at the Hurricane Relief Spaghetti Dinner on Oct. 10, 2005!

Over 100 volunteers will be travelling to Slidell, LA to participate in the clean-up and reconstruction of areas affected by Hurricane Katrina.